

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Colombia
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democracy
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	514-007
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$19,500,000 ACI
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:</b>	\$19,700,000 ACI
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2000
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2008

**Summary:** USAID fosters increased participation, representation and accountability of democratic institutions and processes. The democracy program seeks to modernize the criminal justice system and promote access to justice for disenfranchised Colombians; promote and protect human rights; increase government transparency and accountability; and strengthen the Government of Colombia's (GOC's) ability to develop policy and implement activities supporting peace initiatives throughout Colombia. USAID is promoting the "Colombianization" of activities within GOC and civil society organizations by promoting private sector alliances and local capacity development.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2006 Program:

Promote and Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$3,100,000 ACI). USAID is providing technical assistance to 80 GOC entities to strengthen internal controls, implement ethics management standards, and develop information and communication systems. Approximately 265 citizen oversight groups are being strengthened through training, and financial and technical assistance. USAID supports a broad-based representational, participatory and accountability program, including strengthening citizen oversight strategies with private sector contributions. Prime implementer: Casals and Associates.

Protect Human Rights (\$8,700,000 ACI). USAID is providing technical assistance to strengthen human rights by supporting state and civil society organizations. Funds are being used to support efforts to prevent human rights abuses, such as the Early Warning System; enhance protection provided by civil society and the government entities; and strengthen human rights public policy implementation and civil society organizations. In addition, USAID continues to implement several of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights recommendations. Prime implementer: Management Sciences for Development and others to be determined through a competitive process.

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,600,000 ACI). USAID is providing technical assistance to increase citizen participation by strengthening political processes and political reform efforts in Colombia. Activities focus on increasing responsiveness to previously disenfranchised constituent groups and strengthening of internal transparency and accountability practices. Technical assistance will also be provided to assist citizens groups on voter education and promote transparent democratic processes. Prime implementers: National Democratic Institute and International Republican Institute.

Strengthen the Justice Sector (\$6,100,000 ACI). USAID is providing technical assistance and training to implement the new Criminal Procedures Reform; strengthen court administration and management; increase access to justice (especially for underserved rural, conflict affected,

indigent and/or ethnically marginalized populations); and enhance civil society's roles in justice reform and modernization. Technical assistance is also helping institutionalize training units for the Public Defenders and Office of the Inspector General. Funds are being used to establish additional justice houses and to refurbish and equip courts, public defense offices, and Judicial Service Centers that conform to the requirements of the new accusatory system. Prime implementer: Checchi and Company, DPK Consulting, and others to be determined through a competitive process.

**FY 2007 Program:**

Promote And Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$4,200,000 ACI). USAID plans to promote participatory, representative and transparent governance by supporting the GOC and civil society in implementing the National Anti-Corruption Policy launched in 2005. Technical assistance will be provided to strengthen civil society's capabilities regarding oversight of public spending and promoting participatory budgeting at regional levels. Prime implementers: to be determined.

Protect Human Rights (\$8,800,000 ACI). USAID will continue strengthening fundamental human rights in Colombia, focusing on the most conflictive regions. Constructive policy dialogue between the GOC and civil society in the areas of prevention, protection and response is a high priority. Technical assistance is planned to be used to strengthen prevention mechanisms, such as the Early Warning System; increase protection by supporting the Ministry of Interior and Justice protection and communities-at-risk projects; and strengthen state entities dealing with human rights public policy implementation and civil society organizations. Funds will also be used to provide technical assistance to strengthen civil society organizations' capacity to ensure the GOC adheres to minimum human rights standards and increases protection of highly vulnerable groups. Prime implementers: to be determined.

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,600,000 ACI). USAID seeks to strengthen the political party system from across the political spectrum in Colombia to ensure democratic, representative and responsive organizations. Technical assistance is planned to strengthen political party's ability to improve two-way constituent communication and internal organization and improve outreach to marginalized groups strengthening civic participation. Technical assistance is also planned to strengthen local party structures, with particular focus on the social and political representation of Afro-Colombian and other ethnic communities. Prime implementers: to be determined.

Strengthen the Justice Sector (\$5,100,000 ACI). USAID plans to continue assisting in justice modernization and oral accusatory system reform in jurisdictions such as Medellin, Cali, Buga and outlying areas. Technical assistance will be used to expand and strengthen provision of justice services through additional Justice House and conciliation programs and by training justice sector actors such as public defenders and personnel within the Office of the Inspector General. USAID also plans to improve civil society capacity in monitoring, assessing, advocating, and mobilizing justice reform initiatives, as well as promoting and providing justice reform and modernization services. Efforts will especially focus on geographically isolated, or economically and socially disenfranchised or marginalized populations. Prime implementers: to be determined.

**Performance and Results:** Significant advances have been made in the democracy and governance program. First, two GOC human rights programs developed and implemented with substantial USAID support received important commendation from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on International Humanitarian Law, and the Organization for American States. Second, USAID's justice reform program and the new criminal procedure code accusatory system reform succeeded in reducing time-to-trial in pilot jurisdictions by up to 90%. Similarly, in accusatory system reform pilot jurisdictions, approximately 70% of the cases are being plea-bargained and adjudicated within weeks rather than the customary wait of several years under the previous system. Demonstrating support for building a full time state-funded public defense system, the Colombian Congress and the GOC

are demonstrating commitment to this crucial service for the poor by enacting a Public Defense System Law. They are also doubling the budget for the pilot Public Defender program, which was created with USAID assistance. Third, concerning government accountability and anti-corruption initiatives, in 2005 President Uribe signed a decree based on a USAID model mandating a new Internal Control System for all executive branch offices. In addition, the private sector has made significant contributions in supporting and expanding citizen oversight of public investment. Finally, under Peace Initiatives, the Tracking and Monitoring System in place for monitoring progress of the demobilization and reincorporation process is being used by key GOC officials to guide policy decisions.

By FY 2008, USAID expects that the strengthened institutional foundation will ensure increased protection of human rights, access to justice, and accountable regional governments and political institutions.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Colombia

514-007 Democracy	ACI	DA	ESF	Plan Colombia
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>				
Obligations	74,072	52	83,842	47,000
Expenditures	43,881	52	80,478	45,549
Unliquidated	30,191	0	3,364	1,451
<b>Fiscal Year 2005</b>				
Obligations	22,277	0	0	0
Expenditures	32,798	0	2,975	1,355
<b>Through September 30, 2005</b>				
Obligations	96,349	52	83,842	47,000
Expenditures	76,679	52	83,453	46,904
Unliquidated	19,670	0	389	96
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>				
Obligations	0	0	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>				
Obligations	19,000	0	0	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006</b>				
Obligations	19,000	0	0	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA</b>				
Obligations	19,000	0	0	0
Future Obligations	19,000	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	153,349	52	83,842	47,000